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President Dole has been congratulated since the arrival of the Australia on his appointment as the first Governor of the Territory of Hawaii, by a very large number of the very best and most influential people of the Territory.

It is to be regretted that some of these congratulations came from quarters that have been loud in their condemnation of the Dole government. To the independent and self-respecting sycophancy is a horror. But without being so stigmatized, reserving the right of forcible criticism of the past and serious and thoughtful comments upon the forecast of the future and the influence of his appointment upon the political conditions of the Territory, which may or may not be complimentary, the WEEKLY desires to congratulate President Dole from a personal standpoint upon his most probable appointment as the first Governor of the Territory of Hawaii. It furthermore desires to congratulate the ex-President and eulogize him, irrespective of his official position, as the first gentleman of the land—a Hawaiian to be proud of. As an old-school gentleman, in suavity of manner, in personal integrity, in sincerity of purpose, in high intellectuality, in all attributes which are requisite to the make-up of a manly man, ex-President Dole has no superior as a gentleman in Hawaii. Furthermore, except for certain local conditions, of which President McKinley was not cognizant, because these conditions were probably not presented with the dignity and merit they deserved, ex-President Dole is most certainly the logical appointee for governor. But because of these unfortunate local conditions Mr. Dole's appointment as governor is, perhaps, the greatest misfortune that could have beset the new Territory of Hawaii as it blooms into political existence under the Stars and Stripes. But of this later when the news of the full official confirmation of Mr. Dole's appointment as the first governor of Hawaii shall have been received. For the present it is the desire of the WEEKLY that if by any mishap there should be a "slip between the cup and the lip" that the ex-President should carry with him in his retirement from office this sincere and hearty tribute to his high personal qualities untrammelled by severe comment or adverse criticism.

It is rather premature to comment upon the appointments reported to have been made by President McKinley for the Territory of Hawaii, for the report comes only as a rumor. The Australia brought the first news. But everyone waited for the Rio in the hope that W. O. Smith could confirm something. When that longed for individual arrived he brought home with him only impressions although he was in close touch with Judge Hartwell by wire until the hour of sailing. Even in regard to Mr. Dole Mr. Smith said:

"My impression is that Mr. Dole will be the Governor. No definite news reached me upon the subject before I sailed from San Francisco."

In regard to the other offices Mr. Smith continued:

"My impression is that Justice Frear will succeed to the Justiceship. Also, I believe, all the present Circuit Judges will probably be retained, with possibly the exception of Judge Stanley, who is, unfortunately, an Englishman, and therefore not a citizen of the United States. As for Judge Perry, my impression is that he will be a Justice on the Supreme Bench."

Even in regard to the Federal offices Mr. Smith had the following impressions:

"Both Judge Estee and Judge Greene are spoken of in connection with that office, and I am inclined to think that Estee holds first place at present."

Furthermore, Mr. Smith had favorable impressions concerning Customs Collector Stackable and Postmaster General Oat. But it is very noticeable that Mr. Smith had no impressions concerning Mr. Cooper for Secretary of State. Why is this? Or any impressions concerning the Attorney General, who also is an appointment of the President's.

As Mr. Smith has brought back only impressions concerning all these appointments the whole matter must still be considered in the realm of rumor and serious comment upon them must be delayed until next week.

If M. M. Estee is appointed federal judge it certainly will meet with universal approval. Although an unfortunate politician Mr. Estee is a learned lawyer and would make an able judge. His coming to Honolulu would certainly be a valuable acquisition to society and the profession.

In a little more than a month the Hawaiian Islands will be as firmly set in the American Union as the old original state of Massachusetts. The law making the islands a Territory will be enforced on June 14th and ever after, as long as the starry banner waves, the people of these green isles of the Pacific will enjoy the rare privilege of a liberal constitution, which gives to all Americans, Europeans and Polynesians an equality of political rights. A gift like this does not fall from the skies. It has to be earned by sturdy and persistent effort. It was secured by the Americans by the expenditure of bloodshed through the trials of fearful wars and it has come down to the Americans and adopted Americans of these islands as a sort of heritage without price. Annexation had its conception in the mind of the late S. N. Castle nearly sixty years ago. The germ grew slowly, as the Kamehameha rule satisfied everybody, but still the need of a greater protection than the power of the Kamehamehas could give the people was felt. It was twenty-five years after the theory was evolved that the practical agitation of annexation was begun by Dr. McGrew, and it came about